

Ronald T. Corcory, Assistant Director
Division of Hazardous Waste Management
New Jersey Department of Environmental
Protection
401 East State Street
CN 028
Trenton, New Jersey 08625

Dear Mr. Corcory:

This letter is to formally notify you that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has completed the Removal Action at the Arkansas Chemical Company Site, Newark, New Jersey. EPA began this Removal Action on January 16, 1987, by providing 24 hour site security. Security was employed following a verbal request from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP), on January 16, 1987. A subsequent formal letter, on January 22, 1987, requested EPA assume the lead role for remedial activities at this site.

The Arkansas Chemical Company produced textile and other specialty chemicals at its Newark facility until it was abandoned in 1983. Abandoned on this site are a two-story office and laboratory building (Bldgs. 25/30), a machine shop (Bldg. 26), a small chemical processing building (Bldg. 27), a large four-story chemical process building (Bldg. 28), a boiler room/tank house (Bldgs. 16 & 16B), a storage building (Bldg. 24), and two sheds (S1 & S2). About 1,500 drums and 20,000 small containers of chemicals were left at this site at the time of its abandonment. In addition, there are approximately 17 aboveground storage tanks and 70 process tanks/reaction vessels.

EPA has safely and successfully removed all known hazardous wastes which existed at this site. These wastes included the following: 28,000 gallons of liquid hazardous waste, 49,000 pounds of drummed solid hazardous waste, 660 cubic yards of solid hazardous waste, 80 cubic yards of asbestos, 20,000 laboratory reagent bottles, 10 unknown gas cylinders and small quantities of radioactive wastes. On February 2, 1989, EPA completely demobilized from the site. No further Removal activities are planned.

EPA has noted two remaining concerns regarding this site. First, the overall structural condition of the facility is deteriorating rapidly as a result of the water damage it incurs regularly. This is particularly noticeable on the third and fourth floors of building 28. Second, the temporary water service connected by the City of Newark is still operative. City representatives have been advised to terminate the water service, however, to date no

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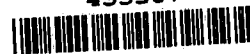
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action has been taken. It is our understanding that the City of Newark now owns the Arkansas Chemical Company property. If action is not taken to correct these situations soon, further damage to this facility may occur.

Should you have any further questions regarding this site or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at (201) 321-6657 or Mr. Mark Pane of my staff at (201) 906-6813.

Sincerely yours,

Richard C. Salkie, Associate Director for
Removal and Emergency Preparedness Programs

cc: Mayor Sharpe James
Glenn Grant, Corporation Council City of Newark
Anthony Cavalier, NJDEP
John Trela, NJDEP
David Beeman, NJDEP
Alvin Zach, City of Newark
Paul Butler, City of Newark
Robert Swales, Newark Emergency Management

bcc: Stephen Luftig, EPA
George Zachos, EPA
Mark Pane, EPA
Janet Feldstein, EPA
William Tucker, EPA